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ANTHROPOLOGIC MISCELLANEA

NINETEENTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICANISTS

In consequence of the war in Europe, the Washington meeting of the Congress, which was originally scheduled for October 5, 1915, was, with the general approval of the membership, indefinitely postponed. Since then it has become evident that the war may last for a long period, and that when it does end the conditions, economic and otherwise, may be such that a successful meeting cannot be held for many years. Circumstances, however, have now so shaped themselves as to make possible a well attended session of the Congress during the coming winter, notwithstanding the enforced absence of most of the European delegates. During Convocation Week of this year, a number of important scientific bodies, whose interest wholly or in part are closely related to those of the Americanists and whose membership is in a large measure the same, will meet in Washington. As this seemed to present an excellent opportunity for a meeting of the Americanists, the Organizing Committee took preliminary steps which assure intimate coöperation between the Congress and other learned bodies and submitted the proposal to hold the postponed session in coöperation or jointly with these Organizations, to the vote of the members. The result of this vote was overwhelmingly in favor of the proposal. In consequence, the Organizing Committee feels authorized to announce that the session will be held in Washington, December 27-31, of this year; and that it will be held jointly or in coöperation with the Anthropological Section of the Pan-American Scientific Congress, the American Anthropological Association, the American Historical Association, the American Folk-Lore Society, and the Archeological Institute of America. The program previously published will in the main be adhered to, excepting the field excursions; and the members are urged to communicate with the Secretary in relation to the papers which they intend to present.

W. H. HOLMES,
Chairman.

A. HRDLIČKA,
Secretary,
Organizing Committee.

SECOND PAN-AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC CONGRESS.

In accordance with the resolutions of the First Pan-American Scientific Congress, held in Santiago, Chile, December 25, 1908, to January 5, 1909, a Second Pan-American Scientific Congress will meet in Washington next December under the auspices of the Government of the United States. The Congress will open on Monday, December 27, 1915, and adjourn on Saturday, January 8, 1916.

The Pan-American Scientific Congress had its origin in the scientific congresses that had been held by the Republics of Latin America prior to the Congress in Santiago, and was established with the generous conviction that the United States should share in their undertaking. This conviction was splendidly shown in the unsolicited and voluntary action of the First Congress in the selection of Washington as the place of meeting of the Second Congress, the main purpose of which will be to increase the exchange of knowledge and bring about a better understanding of the ways in which the several Republics can work to the advancement of science, the increase of culture, and the promotion of trade, commerce, and mutual helpfulness. In view of the fact that the Second Congress is to be held under the auspices of the Government of the United States, it is earnestly hoped that our foremost scientists, learned societies, and educational institutions will cooperate in every way possible in order to insure the success of the Congress.

The following persons will be members of the Congress:

The official delegates of the countries represented.

The representatives of the universities, institutes, societies, and scientific bodies of the countries represented.

Such persons in the countries participating in the Congress as may be invited by the Executive Committee, with the approval of the countries represented.

All writers of papers.

All members of the Congress shall be entitled to attend its sessions, to take part in the debates, and to receive a copy of such publications as the Executive Committee may issue. There will be no membership fee of any character.

The following program has been arranged for section I, Anthropology, of which W. H. Holmes is Chairman.

I. Physical Anthropology.

(a) Origin of man; his place in the scheme of nature; problems of evolution, migration, geography, chronology.

(b) Development of the individual from the embryo through

childhood to full maturity; involution of the individual and death.

- (c) The races, their differentiation, physical characteristics, fertility, physiology; admixtures, tendencies.
- (d) Eugenics: proposed measures for physical betterment.
- (e) Pathology; geographical distribution of disease, racial characteristics, effects on progeny and race.
- (f) Racial position and antiquity of the American aborigines; physical modifications due to changes in social, political, and industrial conditions; results of admixture with other races.
- (g) The racial elements now entering into the composition of the American peoples as a whole; progress and tendencies of amalgamation; possibilities of intelligent and effective direction of the processes.
- (h) Methods of research, record, and display: anthropometry, instruments.

II. Ethnology. The social and political groups, stocks, tribes, clans, societies, families; languages, habits, customs, arts, industries, religion, esthetics.

III. Archeology. The various lines of research opened up by the study of the tribes are continued indefinitely into the past by the researches of this branch. The many topics for discussion include those especially which relate to the chronology of the American race, and the evolution of its culture.

Although world anthropology in all its phases may be considered by the Congress with profit, it is assumed that chief interest will center in the American branches of the subject and especially in its more strictly Pan-American phases. To the latter belong (1) problems of the aboriginal peoples, their history, present status, and possible future; (2) problems relating to the complex of races and nationalities now constituting the Pan-American populations. The present period is witnessing the phenomena of migration, conquest, and race rebuilding on a scale unparalleled in history, and the problems arising with regard to the trend and possible outcome are among the most important that science has to consider.

It has been arranged that the Nineteenth International Congress of Americanists shall meet in Washington during the same week with the Pan-American Scientific Congress, so that joint conferences can be held for the discussion of subjects of common interest to members of the two organizations. It is expected that such joint meetings will

be arranged for especially between the Congress of Americanists, which deals largely with anthropology and the anthropology section of the Pan-American Congress. This will be especially advantageous since a large number of students from all parts of America, as well as from the Old World interested in these branches, will thus be brought together on common ground.

The arrangement of the joint programs for the presentation of the papers will be placed in the hands of a joint committee of the two congresses, which committee will arrange for the publication of the same.

Since it is planned that the section of anthropology shall hold its meetings or conferences for the discussion of the problems which it has to consider jointly with the International Congress of Americanists, it is assumed that the program cannot be arranged save in its general scope, as indicated above, until the program committees of the two congresses meet. The Americanist Congress concerns itself especially with American problems, and more especially with those which relate to the aboriginal peoples, but the discussions may extend also to history, geography, institutions, government, etc., all of which topics are of particular concern to Pan-America.

THE SAN FRANCISCO meeting of the American Anthropological Association (August 3 and 5) was attended by a number of eastern anthropologists, among them Dr E. Sapir, representing the Geological Survey of Canada, Professor George Grant MacCurdy of Yale University, and Dr Robert H. Lowie of the American Museum of Natural History. The University of California was represented by Dr T. T. Waterman, Mr E. W. Gifford, and Professor J. C. Merriam, of whom the last-mentioned presented an illuminating survey of all the evidence hitherto adduced to establish man's antiquity in California. There was an informal dinner in a Chinese restaurant, which proved ethnologically stimulating to a group of about a dozen participants.

PROFESSOR W. F. OGBORN, of the department of sociology, Reed College, Portland, Oregon, gave a summer course at the University of California and attended the sessions of the Association. His courses at Reed College devote considerable attention to purely anthropological topics.

Dr W. D. WALLIS, formerly of the University of Pennsylvania, is lecturing at the University of California this year during Professor Kroeber's absence.

DR E. SAPIR has been studying the Yahi dialect with the aid of the last surviving member of this group, the well-known Ishi.

DR A. E. JENKS, professor of anthropology in the University of Minnesota, has been made chairman of the department of sociology and anthropology in that institution.

EXPLORATIONS being made in the Westhaver mounds six miles south of Circleville by Curator William C. Mills, of the Ohio Archeological and Historical Museum, the Ohio State University have brought to light interesting relics of aboriginal burial mounds. This mound is 16 feet high and 100 feet in diameter, about 2,000 cubic feet of earth, and every inch must be carefully examined. A total of fifteen burials was found in the mound, four of them in graves below the surface or base of the mound, and the remainder in the mound proper. In many cases the skeletons were found to be lacking one or more bones, and in one case the skull alone was found. This was explained by Dr Mills as indicating the custom of reburial, practised by the mound builders. At one point in the explorations a huge grave was opened, extending five feet below the base line. In the grave were found three skeletons, placed side by side—two adults and a child. The adults, probably a man and a woman, were almost six feet in height, while the third skeleton was that of a child perhaps seven years old. Dr Mills and his party will spend most of the summer working in this mound.—*Science*.

CONSTRUCTION work on the new building of the Field Museum of Natural History, which is to be built on Chicago's lake front, just south of Twelfth street, began on July 15, after twelve years of planning and negotiation. The structure will be completed in less than three years, according to plans. More than 3,000 men will be employed in the work. It is said that it will be the largest marble building in the world and one of the largest museums. It will consist of three stories and a basement and will cover an area of 700×350 feet. The floor area of the museum will be 670,000 square feet, of which 400,000 square feet will be devoted to exhibition purposes. The remainder will be used for scientific laboratories, lecture halls, offices and a restaurant.—*Science*.

THE NEW YORK ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, with the aid of the insular government, has undertaken a scientific survey of Porto Rico. Professor Boas, who represents anthropology on the committee having the work in charge, spent the month of June in the field organizing the work. He was assisted by Drs Haeberlin and Mason and Mr Aitken, the latter two remaining through July also. The work includes the

collection of folklore, a study of physical types where family histories are traceable from church records, and an examination of archeological sites. Dr Mason sailed on September 4 to continue the archeological work with the coöperation of the American Museum of Natural History. Dr Mason goes later to the University of California to undertake ethnological field work in California.

MR R. T. AITKEN, who has spent the last two years at Columbia University in graduate study, has received an appointment as Instructor in the department of anthropology at the University of Pennsylvania.

PROFESSOR A. L. KROEBER has spent the summer at Zuñi in the interests of the American Museum of Natural History. He devoted his attention more particularly to a study of family relationships and the terms employed. In order to judge the changes in recent years in the village, he had a resurvey made for comparison with Mindeleff's plan. Prof. Kroeber sailed on August 31 for Europe where he will examine museum collections and where he hopes to secure first-hand knowledge of public opinion and of emotional conditions. He has a sabbatical leave of absence from the University of California.

Mrs MATILDA COXE STEVENSON, who is known because of her work in the Southwest, particularly at Sia, Zuñi, and on the Rio Grande, extending over nearly forty years, died at Washington on June 24th. An especially prepared account of her work will appear in the next number.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY at the last commencement conferred the degree of doctor of philosophy on H. K. Haeberlin whose thesis was entitled, "The Idea of Fertilization in the Culture of the Pueblo Indians."

THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA granted a doctor's degree to Wilson Dallam Wallis, thesis, "Individual Initiative and Social Compulsion;" and to Ernest William Hawkes, thesis, "Skeletal Measurements and Observations on the Point Barrow Eskimo with Comparisons with other Eskimo Groups."

PROFESSOR FREDERICK WARD PUTNAM, one of the organizers of this association, and the most prominent of the older generation of anthropologists, died at Cambridge, Mass., on August 14, in his seventy-seventh year. An account of his life and contribution to anthropology will appear in the next issue.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the American Anthropological Association will be held in Washington, D. C., Dec. 27-31, in affiliation with the International Congress of Americanists, the Anthropology Section of the Pan-American Scientific Congress, and the American Folk-Lore Society, and several other scientific bodies. Titles of papers and abstracts for this joint meeting should be sent to Dr Aleš Hrdlicka, U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.